During the monsoons, the community as a whole had no means of livelihood unless they had put by something to fall back upon. During that period several poor people of the community used to collect shanks and lime-shells and eke out their living. This had been made impossible by the Government leasing out the collection of lime-shells, etc., for a paltry sum of Rs. 280 in 1100. This was an act of injustice done to the community and should be rectified.

More wells at Government cost should be sunk for the use of the Arasars. Scarcity of water considerably affected the health of the people. A few dispensaries, allopathic as well as *Ayurveda*, in their villages were urgently needed. The Inspecting Medical Officer and the Sanitary Commissioner should be asked to inspect the villages inhabited by these people and examine the state of their health periodically.

The assurance given by Dr. Lakshmanan, the former Durbar Physician, regarding the establishment of a dispensary at Tiruvattar still remained unfulfilled.

Approach roads to the villages of Arasars should be constructed. A few bridges in disrepair should be put in order. A road or at least a cart track from Tulayavattai police station *via* Pulankuzhi Catholic church to Martandam market was urgently needed.

In order to develop the foreign trade in fish, a co-operative credit bank substantially aided by the Government was required. Co-operative societies exclusively for the Arasars should be formed. To achieve this object, the rule against the formation of societies on communal basis should be relaxed.

A few Catholic Arasars should be trained in subjects relating to fisheries, pressing and manufacture of fish oil, etc. The subordinate ranks of the Fisheries Department should be manned entirely by fisher-folk.

The fisher-folk were not addicted to drink. But several taverns were now located near their villages. They had become a source of hindrance to the progress of the community; they should be removed at least three miles away from their villages.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Fernandez, I am very sorry that it is not possible for me to give you detailed and definite answers on each and every point you have taken up to-day for the simple reason that you found yourself unable to give the Government notice of the matters you were going to represent. This much alone I can say that the Arasar community will never appeal to the Government and not meet with sympathy in return.

155. Needs of the Kammala community.

MR. K. NARAYANAN ASARI (*Member, Nominated*) said that the Kammala community was not represented at all in the Legislative Council and only inadequately in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. Out of a total population of nearly forty lakhs, the Kammala community numbered 1,63,724 and therefore deserved to have one seat on the Council. Two seats on the Assembly also should be permanently reserved for the community.

The Kammala community was as was accepted by the Government 'backward' in point of English education. The community was as a whole very poor and could but ill afford to have the benefits of English education. The pupils of the community in English schools and colleges should be given three-quarters fee concession. There were only 134 pupils belonging to the Kammala community in English schools and colleges and as such his proposal would not involve any heavy additional expenditure. Similarly, in Vernacular schools they should be given half-fee concession.

None of the students who passed out from the Quilon Carpentry and Smithery School appeared to have secured any appointment in the State service. For the progress of the community they should be immediately appointed in the service. As many students from that community as applied for admission to the school should be admitted. There should be a general rule to the effect that all Vernacular School Leaving Certificate holders from the community should be entitled to admission to the Carpentry School.

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The stipends to Kammala students should be raised to Rs. 10, Rs. 12 and Rs. 14 in the three classes of the Carpentry School. Training should be given in iron casting. There should be at least two non-official Kammalas on the Selection Board and the Examiners' Board pertaining to the Carpentry and Smithery School. English should be a compulsory subject in the curricula of studies in the Carpentry School.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Narayanan Asari, Government, I regret to say, cannot guarantee to nominate a fixed number of members of any minority or backward community, either to the Legislative Council or to the Popular Assembly. There are only seven seats to which Government have a right of nominating non-officials in the Legislative Council and only 23 seats in the Assembly, and these have to be distributed among a large number of communities which otherwise would not be represented on the Council or the Assembly. Some of the communities are coming in with representatives nominated by the Government only once in two or three years. The Kammala community comes in with one representative every year. Therefore, let it congratulate itself.

2. You ask for further concessions for the Kammala community in schools and colleges. They already get half-fee concession in the English Schools ; and until that is proved inadequate, it must remain the only concession. In the Vernacular schools, primary education is free and in the higher classes the fees are extremely low. I regret to say it is not possible to give half-fee concession in Vernacular schools to members of your community.

3. You ask for special concession in respect of the Carpentry School at Quilon. Preference in the matter of admission is given to the boys of the carpenter and such other artisan classes of people and stipends are given at the rates of Rs. 8, Rs. 10 and Rs. 12 a month to boys and yet the number of Kammala students who seek admission and remain in the school is very poor. Possibly, the explanation is that they are not guaranteed salaried Government appointments immediately after passing out of the school. Let me assure the Member that the Government have not got a limitless storehouse of Government appointments to dole out to everybody who gets a certificate from the school.

156. Lands for the Paraya community.

MR. KANTAN KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the applications of the Parayas for concessional registry of lands had not yet been disposed of. The lands for which they had applied were being registered in the names of influential people. This should be stopped and their applications disposed of at once. Pending registry, the Parayas might be allowed to cultivate the lands which they had applied for without being molested by the revenue authorities.

The establishment of a Paraya colony on the 600 acres of land lying on both sides of the public road from the Manimala river to Perumpuzhakkadavu in Ranni was the subject of representation at successive sessions of the Assembly. Early orders should be passed on this matter. The applications for the disafforestation and registry of the swampy areas in the Chengannur, Pattanamtitta, Kunnattur and Pattanapuram taluks had not yet been disposed of. The lands in Pattanapuram taluk which the Disafforestation Committee had recommended to be auctioned as well as the other lands applied for should be registered in the names of Parayas. Similarly, the applications made for the registry of the lands comprised in Survey Nos. 1/13, 1/14, 19/1, 20/1, 28/1, 35/1, and 731/1 in the Takazhi and Porakad *pakuthies* in Ambalapuzha taluk, Survey Nos. 228/1, 107/2 C in Vallikkunnam *pakuthi*, Survey Nos. 119/1 in Tamarakulam *pakuthi* in Mavelikara taluk, Survey No. 308/4 in Tiruvalla *pakuthi*, Survey Nos. 528/2 B, 528/2 A and 452/12 B in Eraviperur *pakuthi* in Tiruvalla taluk, and Survey Nos. 349/1 and 594/1 in Anchal *pakuthi* and 644 in Punalur *pakuthi*, in Pattanapuram taluk should be disposed of without delay.

The Parayas should be given free passes for taking head-loads of *eatta* and cane from the reserved forests. This would enable them to pursue their time-honoured profession.

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